

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 286382
ORIGIN AF-10

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APPROVED BY AF :MR. EDMONDSON
AF/S :LRMACFARLANE
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-----016997 011313Z /47 40
R 010057Z DEC 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EGEN

SUBJECT: SCHEEPERS TESTIMONY

REF: PRETORIA 5288

1. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE HAS INFORMED STATE THAT RYAN HAS BEEN FORMALLY INDICTED. (COPY OF INDICTMENT BEING POUCHED TO EMBASSY). JUSTICE STRONGLY DESIRES PRESENCE OF SCHEEPERS AT TRIAL SCHEDULED TO BEGIN FEBRUARY 13, 1978. THEREFORE, DEPARTMENT REQUESTS THAT AMBASSADOR SEND LETTER ALONG FOLLOWING LINES TO SECRETARY OF COMMERCE STEYN.

2. QUOTE: THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES RESPECTFULLY REQUESTS THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA PERMIT MR. C.F. SCHEEPERS OF YOUR DEPARTMENT TO APPEAR AS A US GOVERNMENT WITNESS AT THE TRIAL OF JAMES G. RYAN. THE TRIAL OF MR. RYAN, AN AMERICAN
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CITIZEN, IS SCHEDULED TO OPEN FEBRUARY 13, 1978 IN SEATTLE, WASHINGTON.

3. MR SCHEEPER'S TESTIMONY IS NECESSARY TO DISPROVE THE REPRESENTATION MADE BY RYAN IN 1974 THAT RYAN CONTROLLED A 30 MILLION DOLLAR LINE OF EXPORT CREDITS GRANTED TO HIM BY YOUR GOVERNMENT. RYAN ALSO FALSELY

REPRESENTED THAT HE HAD EXECUTED CONTRACTS WITH SOUTH AFRICAN MATERIALS SUPPLIERS TO PROVIDE UNLIMITED AMOUNTS OF PRE-FABRICATED HOUSING AND THAT HE HAD FIRM COMMITMENTS FROM NIGERIA, EGYPT, SUDAN AND OTHER NATIONS FOR FINANCING AND CONSTRUCTION. RELYING ON THOSE REPRESENTATIONS, VARIOUS AMERICAN BUILDING CONTRACTORS PAID RYAN OVER 200,000 DOLLARS FOR THE PRIVILEGE OF PARTICIPATING IN THE PROJECT.

4. PROVIDED THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA AGREES TO PERMIT MR. SCHEEPERS TO APPEAR AS A GOVERNMENT WITNESS AT THE TRIAL OF RYAN, THE AMERICAN EM, ASSY WILL CONTACT MR. SCHEEPERS TO WORK OUT TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS. IT IS ANTICIPATED THAT MR. SCHEEPERS' PRESENCE AT THE TRIAL WOULD BE REQUIRED FOR A PERIOD OF FIVE TO SEVEN DAYS. TRANSPORTATION AND PER DIEM EXPENSES WILL BE PROVIDED BY THE US GOVERNMENT. UNQUOTE. VANCE

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Message Attributes

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